

**East Chicago, Indiana**

**April 19, 2017**

**PURPOSE:** You are scheduled to tour the USS Lead Superfund site in East Chicago, Indiana with Governor Eric Holcomb (R-IN), Senator Todd Young (R-IN), Senator Joe Donnelly (D-IN).

**East Chicago Superfund Site Issues**

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**Areas of Concern**

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**ACTIONS EPA HAS TAKEN UNDER THE PRUITT ADMINISTRATION:**

**Water Supply**

- East Chicago is receiving \$16.5 million in EPA's SRF funding for drinking water infrastructure upgrades.
- EPA, the state and the city are working together to coordinate lead service line replacement with cleanup work to expedite completion of the work and minimize disruptions.
- EPA provided 55 homes with filters and bottled water while Superfund work was underway at those properties in Zones 2 and 3. This year, Indiana will distribute filters to all residents in Zones 2 and 3.

**Remediation**

- EPA resumed cleanup working in Zones 2 and 3 after the agency reached an agreement with several potentially responsible parties to fund part of this work at an estimated value of \$16 million.
- Zone 2: EPA plans to remove contaminated soil at an estimated 72 high priority properties
- Zone 3: EPA plans to clean up the yards at an estimated 120 properties. EPA will also test inside each home and conduct thorough cleanings as needed.
- At the Mayor's request, EPA has done additional soil sampling which is being coordinated with pipe replacements.

## Background

- The USS Lead site was listed on the National Priorities List of the worst contaminated sites in the country in 2009.
- A copper smelter, lead refinery and lead smelter operated on site from the 1920's to 1985—the primary contaminants of concern are lead and arsenic.
- The EPA selected a remedy in 2012 requiring excavation of lead-contaminated soils at a public housing complex and multiple residential properties.
- In 2014, EPA and the Potentially Responsible Parties entered into a consent decree to implement the selected remedy.

## Cleanup Activities

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## Drinking Water

- Last fall, the EPA tested drinking water at 43 homes to determine if excavation work would cause lead to become dislodged from old service lines and enter the water supply.
- Pre-excavation water testing data showed elevated lead levels. Indiana will provide funding to East Chicago to replace all lead service lines in Zones 2 and 3 of the Superfund site.
- With technical assistance from EPA, IDEM -- the City of East Chicago took immediate steps including increased corrosion control chemicals.
- NRDC Petition: The EPA received a petition from the NRDC for the agency to conduct city-wide water testing, free filters, expand blood level testing and review the state's corrosion control determinations.

## BIOGRAPHIES



**Governor Eric Holcomb (R-IN):** Eric Holcomb has served as Governor of Indiana since 2017, succeeding Mike Pence. Holcomb previously served as Pence's Lieutenant Governor. Holcomb is a Navy veteran and worked for both former Governor Mitch Daniels (R-IN) and former Senator Dan Coats (R-IN). Holcomb's focus as Governor has been on his "Next Level" agenda which focuses on: 1) growing Indiana as a magnet for jobs, 2) creating a 20-year plan to fund roads and bridges, 3) developing a skilled workforce, 4) attacking the drug epidemic, and 5) delivering great government service.

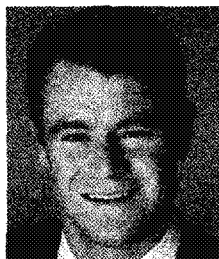


**Senator Joe Donnelly (D-IN):** Donnelly, a moderate Democrat, was elected to his freshman term in the Senate in 2012—he is currently up for re-election. Prior to his election to the Senate, Donnelly served six years in the House of Representatives. He also practiced law in South Bend.

Senator Donnelly is a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, which has jurisdiction over several EPA programs.

## Areas of Concern

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**Senator Todd Young (R-IN):** Young was elected in 2016 in what was one of the most improbable races in the cycle. He previously served in the House for six years. Young is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and later received a commission in the Marine Corps.

As a Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Young's legislative focus is on foreign affairs and national security issues. While in the House, Young's primary focus was on tax policy as he was a Member of the Committee on Way & Means.

REINS Act: Young is the author of legislation which would require Congress to approve all new major regulations. This has been used for several years as the framework for Congress' efforts to tackle regulatory reform; however, the Senate has failed to take action on the REINS Act.

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# USS Lead Zones Map

